3GPP/PCG#5 Meeting
San Francisco,
14 November 2000

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page 1 of 6

Source: **Adrian Scrase**

Title: **Report of MCC activities**

Agenda item: 6.1

Document for:

Decision	
Discussion	
Information	**X**

1   Introduction

This report covers the period between PCG#4 and PCG#5 during which a number of organizational changes have been made which are explained in detail below.

2   The Support Team

2.1   MCC Departures

Franco Settimo has now departed from MCC. Franco was a key member of the team providing support to TSG CN and MCC is much indebted to him for his services. In his new position he will not be directly involved in the standards industry.

David Williams has also departed from MCC. David has worked for many years providing support services to both former SMG groups and also to TSG RAN. In his new position, David will still be active in standardization and we should expect to see him present in 3GPP meetings.

Monica Hellman has now left MCC to return to her company. Monica provided support services to TSG CN and although her time in MCC has been relatively short she has earned considerable respect from her colleagues.

MCC would like to extend its thanks to those departing and wishes them well for the future.

2.2   MCC Arrivals

3 new experts have been recruited to MCC.

Cesar Gutierrez has joined the team on secondment from Telefonica d'Espana, Spain, and will provide support to RAN 4 as well as to the internal ETSI group TC MSG.

Kimmo Kymäläinen has started work soon in MCC on secondment from Sonera Corporation, Finland. Kimmo will provide support in the TSG CN area.

Per Johan Jørgensen has also started work in on secondment from Ericsson, Norway, and will also work in the TSG CN area.

2.3 Voluntary Assistance to MCC

The workload related to TSG RAN peaks at the time of the TSG meeting, with a very high number of change requests needing to be implemented within a short timescale. This has led to an overload situation for the team supporting TSG RAN. To help overcome this problem ARIB have agreed to provide voluntary experts on a temporary basis to assist in the implementation of CRs. The voluntary experts remain at their home location in Tokyo but will work under the remote guidance of MCC. The first experience gained with this approach is very promising and thanks are due to ARIB for their conscientious efforts. It is hoped that this form of assistance will be continued in 2001.

More recently, CWTS have announced that they would like to provide an expert on a voluntary basis to work within MCC at the Sophia Antipolis headquarters. No further details are available at this time but more information will be provided as it becomes available.

2.4 MCC Vacancies

Ban Al Bakri will leave MCC at the end of this year. A call for experts has been issued to find a replacement and the closing date for that call has just passed. It is hoped that a suitable candidate can be obtained from this call.
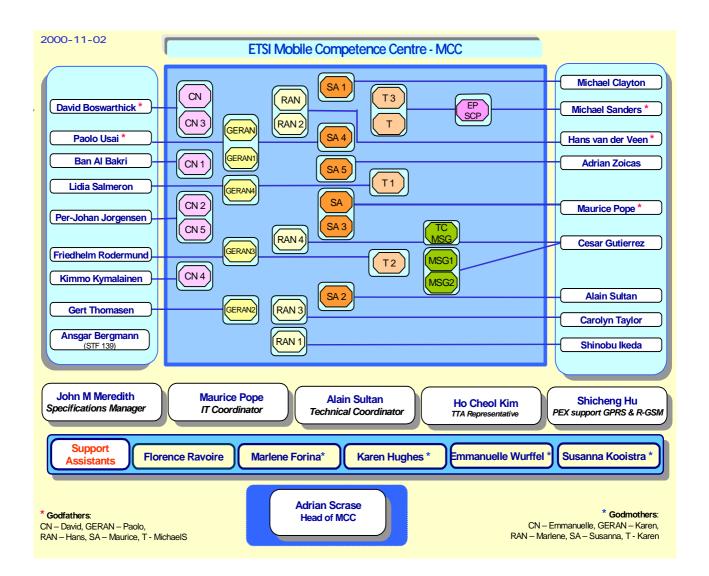
It is not unlikely that further vacancies will occur over the coming months and Individual Members are encouraged to look within their organizations to identify likely candidates. Vacancies are posted on the 3GPP web site and further information concerning contractual terms and conditions can always be obtained from mailto:adrian.scrase@etsi.fr.

2.5 Organization of MCC

With the recent departures and arrivals, some organizational changes have taken place within MCC.

The figure given below shows the allocation of resources to each entity with 3GPP and is a snapshot taken on 2 November. This chart is regularly maintained and the latest version may always be obtained from the 3GPP website at http://www.3gpp.org/.

Individual members may also wish to visit the MCC Gallery on the web site where photographs and profiles can be found for each team member.

2000-11-02

ETSI Mobile Competence Centre - MCC

David Boswarthick *
Paolo Usai *
Ban Al Bakri
Lidia Salmeron
Per-Johan Jorgensen
Friedhelm Rodermund
Kimmo Kymalainen
Gert Thomasen
Ansgar Bergmann (STF 139)

CN · CN 3 · CN 1 · CN 2 · CN 5 · CN 4
GERAN · GERAN1 · GERAN4 · GERAN3 · GERAN2
RAN · RAN 2 · RAN 4 · RAN 3 · RAN 1
SA 1 · SA 4 · SA 5 · SA · SA 3 · SA 2
T 3 · T · T 1 · T 2
EP SCP
TC MSG · MSG1 · MSG2

Michael Clayton
Michael Sanders *
Hans van der Veen *
Adrian Zoicas
Maurice Pope *
Cesar Gutierrez
Alain Sultan
Carolyn Taylor
Shinobu Ikeda

John M Meredith *Specifications Manager*	Maurice Pope *IT Coordinator*	Alain Sultan *Technical Coordinator*	Ho Cheol Kim *TTA Representative*	Shicheng Hu *PEX support GPRS & R-GSM*

Support Assistants · Florence Ravoire · Marlene Forina* · Karen Hughes * · Emmanuelle Wurffel * · Susanna Kooistra *

Adrian Scrase
Head of MCC

* Godfathers:
CN – David, GERAN – Paolo,
RAN – Hans, SA – Maurice, T - MichaelS

* Godmothers:
CN – Emmanuelle, GERAN – Karen,
RAN – Marlene, SA – Susanna, T - Karen

3   3GPP Specific Tasks

In addition to the normal support activities, MCC is currently managing the following specific tasks:

MCC Task 160	Conformance ATSs for UE
MCC Task 161	UE test description for R99
MCC Task 162	Interface tests for terminal / USIM and the conformance tests for the USIM
MCC Task 172	GSM/GPRS-EDGE ICS Proforma for MS (100% ETSI funded)

The recruitment of experts for the above tasks has been completed as reported previously and these activities are now well under way. There are no problems to report. It should be noted however that these specific tasks represent a significant investment since their combined funding is in the order of

1 M€ for year 2000.

MCC is responsible to oversee the Narrowband AMR Codec Characterization tests for 3G which will be subcontracted to testing laboratories. The contracts for these tests have now been prepared and the work should start shortly. It was found that the cost of performing the tests in the Korean language will be slightly higher than originally estimated but the Funding and Finance Group has taken care of that matter.

MCC is also responsible to oversee the laboratory testing for the wideband AMR Codec selection process. The contracts for these tests have now been prepared and the work should start shortly.

A work plan is under preparation for the development of a 3G Authentication algorithm. Funding of this task has already been agreed, contracts have been prepared, and the work should start shortly.

4   Workload

4.1   Specifications management

3GPP (and therefore MCC) is responsible for the following specifications:

378 3G specifications

1432 2G/3G shared specifications (317 of these are maintained by the new TSG GERAN)

1286 2G specifications

4.2   Change requests

By the beginning of September MCC had handled the following Change Requests in year 2000:

2198 CRs to 3G specs

811 CRs to 2G specs

A further **1333** CRs were approved at the recent meetings of TSG GERAN and TSG#9

4.3   Meetings

Since the beginning of the year until the end of August, MCC had supported:

184 3GPP meetings (TSG, WG, Ad Hoc)

These involved the following travels away from the MCC Headquarters

54 Intercontinental travels

188 European travels

5 Budget

5.1 Year 2000

All funding requests from the TSGs for year 2000 have been honoured by the 3GPP Organizational Partners and MCC is on target to complete the year within budget. Financial expenditure and asset control is the responsibility of MCC but a Finance and Funding Group has now been created by the Organizational Partners to oversee this process and to ensure the necessary level of transparency. For those who have an interest in this area, you may wish to consult the finance area on the 3GPP web site where you can find charts that give a monthly update on MCC expenditure.

5.2 Year 2001

A proposed budget for year 2001 has been prepared for approval by the Organizational Partners. The proposed budget assumes the same level of support to the TSGs. No additional requests for support were received during the recent TSG meetings.

6 3GPP web site

The 3GPP web site continues to be a popular site amongst the Individual Members (approximately 6 Million hits per month) and considerable effort is being spent in maintaining its content. MCC receives many requests for information and the responses that we provide have now been formed into a "Frequently Asked Questions" area on the web site.

MCC is continuing to monitor an ETSI activity for the creation of a Portal specifically designed for those actively involved in the technical bodies. If successful, a similar Portal will be considered for 3GPP use.

7 Working methods

7.1 LANs and RLANs

Following on from the good experience gained during TSG#8, MCC provided a Radio Lan service for the TSG#9 meetings held recently in Hawaii. In addition to the consignment of cards provided by Lucent Technologies, Nokia have now provided some cards and radio access ports that are compliant to the IEEE 802.11b standard. The first experience gained shows that these products interoperate fully with each other and this overcomes any doubt that this technology is manufacturer dependant. Thanks are of course due to both Lucent and Nokia who have kindly provided equipment for these trials.

There is a strong interest to move more towards a radio solution for 3GPP meetings in general since the cost of installing a hard wired line is not insignificant. During TSG#9, more than 40 users were connected to the Lan via a radio path and guidance was sought from TSG SA on the level of enthusiasm to move towards a full radio solution in the future. TSG SA supports such a move and the participants were encouraged to purchase suitable cards for future meetings. The ability to distribute meeting documents by CD ROM will always be maintained in case there are technical problems with the installed (Radio) Lan.

7.2 On-line meeting registration.

An on-line meeting registration tool has been developed and was used for the first time for TSG#9. This tool allows delegates to register for a meeting via a web interface and will reduce significantly the administrative overhead that this entails. Whilst some participants will find the move from the fax

machine to an online registration system a difficult transition, it is hoped that this new method will save time for all involved. Following the successful trial of the system at TSG#9 it has been made more widely available for all 3GPP meetings. Feedback on the usefulness of this tool is always welcome and comments should e directed to mailto:emmanuelle.wurffel@etsi.fr

7.3 Webcasting of TSG meetings

A study has been undertaken on the feasibility to introduce the webcasting of TSG meetings. This activity has been done in conjunction with a similar proposal to introduce this service for ETSI high level meetings. Audio/video encoding and streaming equipment has been used in a series of tests in order to determine the expected level of quality that can be expected and a live trial will be conducted for the next ETSI General Assembly meeting.

The hardware required for webcasting is not expensive, being in the order of 10 k€ per system. However, there will be an increased cost for the meeting host since a reliable connection will be needed from the meeting venue to a web server (probably to be located with www.3gpp.org).

TSG SA did discuss the practicalities of webcasting and some concerns were raised on using this technology. The matter will be placed on hold within 3GPP until more experience is gained with webcasting within the ETSI environment. If other SDOs already use this technology the some feedback on their experience would be most welcomed.

8 Outlook for remainder of 2000

With year 2000 drawing to an end, MCC will have completed its first full year of operation. This is an ideal time to reflect on both performance and cost to ensure that the Individual Members continue to receive the services that they require at an affordable cost. Whilst MCC continuously looks inwardly to answer these questions I do rely on feedback from Individual Members. I welcome any helpful suggestions for improvement which should be sent to adrian.scrase@etsi.fr